

# Heaven's Judgments: (1.)

ON

Gamesters, Drunkards, and Seekers of Revenge

Being a full and true Account of one Mr John Gibbs near the City of Bristol, who had an Estate of 1600*l* a Year and left only two Sons at his Decease. With an Account how he left the Estate to the eldest and a good Portion to the other.

How he made it away at gaming and drinking and how his Brother supplied him with Money several Times, but finding he would not leave his wicked course of Life would not supply him do longer. Also how he sold himself to the Devil, to be Revenged on his Brother, and how the Devil put him in a Way to Murder him. And he was prevented the same Night he was to do the Murder by falling into a deep Vintoe

With a Vision he had of a damnsd Soul and Body in Hell which caused him to Repent.

Likewise an Accoune how he was delivered from the Devil on the 18th Day of December last by three Divines whose Names you have in the book

With a Sermon Preached the Sunday after, from the following Words

EXEL, xviii, 17. When the Wicked Man turneth away from his Wickedness that he hath committed and doth that which is Lawful and right shall save his Soul alive.

*Heaven's Judgment on Gamsters. &c.*

**N**EAR the City of *Bristol*, lived on Mr *John Gibbs*, who having 2 only Sons at his Deceale. an Estate of 1600*l* a Year he left his Estate to the Eldest and a handsome Portion to the Youngest giving them a strickt Charge to live in Brotherly love and to be mindful of their Duty to God but the youngest when his Father was laid in his Grave follow'd all manner of Wicked Courses as Gameing, Debauchery. &c. to the great Grief of his Brother and Friends, who often advised him otherwise, but to no purpose for ne continued his Wicked Courses till all his Substance was gone, and then often went to his Brother for Money who subsisted him beging of him to leave his Wicked course of Life, but finding it was in vain he told him he would supply his Extravagancies no longer, which so enraged him, that he studied how to be revenged of his Brother, but finding no opportunity for a long time, he grew very impatient, and swore he would sell himself to the Devil, but he'd have his mind on him. so walking out by himself one Day studying Revenge, wishing several times that the Devil might appear to him & instruct him in a way to be reveng'd on his Brother. The Devil who is always ready to give his cursed assistance upon such Wicked occasions very speedily fulfilled his Desires, for as he was walking alone, casting his Eyes on one side,



he espied the cursed sin coming to him which put him in a Surprize ? but the sin nearly approaching him, saluted him in the most courteous manner and told him that he was come to fulfil his desire, and to put him in away to be revenged of his Brother, so that he might get the Estate himself, and whatever his heart could desire besides, and he'd daily assist him in all matters, but he must make an agreement with him and sign it with his own Blood.

The Gentleman being well satisfy'd the Devil began to make his Proposals, as follows, 1<sup>st</sup>. you must renounce you Baptism. 2<sup>dly</sup>, deny Christ, 3<sup>dly</sup>. Be an open Enemy to all that confess his Name, 4<sup>thly</sup>. You must never read the Old or New Testament, Prayer Book, nor hear any Sermon not regard the Sabbath, but let the chief Day do my Service and be an Enemy to those that keep it Holy and Love Religion, and meet me 3 times a Week at this place, or where I do appoint then to give the Orders.

The Youth extreamly satisfied with these Proposals readily sign'd the Agreement this being done the Devil said unto him, *This Night thou shalt be revenged on thy Brother, and enjoy the Estate ? thou must go at twelve o'Clock this Night, when all the Family are asleep and I'll send a Spirit. that shall give thee Entrance into the House then thou shalt Murder thy Brother. and all in the House except the Man. which I will cast into a deep Sleep till the Murdered Bodies be found*

found then shall he be seized for the same, then you may prosecute him and enjoy the Estate.

This pleasing the wicked wretch, he very readily consented to the same taking his leave of his Curled Master he went with a full intention to put his Bloody design in Execution, but the God of Mercy that can confound the Wicked designs of the Devil, and deliver his own from his hand, soon Prevented this cruel design. For as he went to his Lodging in order to rest till the time appointed he was seized with sleep that he was forced to lie down thinking to rest 2 or 3 Hours, and to rise at the time the Spirit was to come, but he fell in a deep sleep for 12 Hours, as if he had been dead, and in a Dream had the following Vision. He thought there stood by Bed side a very grave Old Man who said, *Thou Servant of Belzabub arise for thou must see what the Wages of thy servants are.* So led me by the Hand to the Bed side of a body that the Soul was just departed fast by the Body thus she moan'd, and questions it with Sighs and Groans: *O wretched Flesh who makes thee thus so low to lie, who yesterday the World seen so high? Wast not but yesterday in all thy Pomp, and all the Country flood at thy Devotion. Thy Train which follow'd when the Sun did shine it sunk away. O doleful Alteration thy Palaces or Buildings what help they thee? thy Graves scarce large enough to hold thy Feet. Henceforth thou canst hurt none with thy self Judgings for thy misdeeds in Hell we both must meet. I poor Soul O I o noble Creature: formed and made in the likeness of my God*



arm'd with Graces of comely Feature, am now so  
 changed fouler than a Toad O wretched Flesh that art  
 with me forlorn, if thou couldst know sharp our Punish-  
 ment, you'd wish you ne'er was born or from the womb  
 to the tomb to have been sent. This I confess no Won-  
 der, for in life to one good Deed thou never wouldst  
 agree but to each greatest Sin didst run with Strife for  
 which for ever we must damned be.

### The Body Answereth

Art thou ( quoth it ) my Soul which thus doth faint

All that thou sayst is neither true nor stable

For I will proue with Arguments most plain,

If some be true, in others thou dost fable

The Body of it self no ill hath known

All that it knows Proceedeth from the Head,

If do what thou bidest the Faults thine own,

For without thee the Body resteth dead,

Therefore thy Guilt Exceedeth mine,

In following Lust so frail and foul.

A certain body had said this two ugly Friends  
 seiz'd the miserable Soul. Hauling him into Hell  
 with Greetings full of Woe, and art worse than  
 crawling Toad, some pouring on boiling Lead,  
 the Devils saying such horreur we do on our Ser-  
 vants Load.

At which the Gentleman affrighted wak'd out  
 of his Sleep, and being sorely terrified at his Dream  
 immediately went to his Brother and with a sor-  
 rowful Heart to'd him what he had done, which  
 put them in a great Surprize.

His Brother immediately sent for Mr. *Bedford*, and Mr. *Langley* Ministers, who came and accompanied him that Day, and he Declared to them what he had done. The Ministers thinking it convenient to go with him to the Place where he was to meet the Devil, sent for Mr. *Bois* to accomodate 'em in their Proceedings. They all going to the Place the Devil appeared in a fearful manner, making a hideous Noise. saying What have ye to do with this Man for he is mine Mr. *Bois* reply'd, Thou art a Liar, for he is not thine, nor thou art not so well acquainted with the mind of God concerning this Man I believe thee not. I believe he shall be saved by JESUS CHRIST.

The Devil answered and said, This Man hath sold himself to be and denied CHRIST and you know none that denies Christ must go to Heaven.

*Minister.* Thou lyest for Peter did and we are sure he is in Heaven; and the Jews with wicked hands Crucified the Lord of Glory, yet Christ prayed for them; and St. Peter exhorted them to Repentance, as their Sins might be blotted out.

*Devil.* But this Man hath not, nor shall not Repeat.

*Min.* If he had not repented thou wouldst not have told me so; but I believe in God and he will give him Repentance, and thou shalt not be able to hinder it.

Upon which the Devil tore and utter'd many blasphemous Expressions upon which Mr. *Bois*

said to the other two Divines, let us go to Prayers and I doubt not but God will deliver this poor Man. The Devil raging said, and thou go to Prayers, if thou dost I will make a Noise, that thy Prayers will be distracted, and thou knowest as God will hear no distracted Prayers.

Min. I look to find thee as great an Enemy in his duty, as I have done heretofore : but I fear the not for thou art limited, for God the Prayers of the Upright, and hath promised to give is Spirit to supply infirmities therefore in Confidence of his promise and powerful assistance of his Spirit, and in the Name of his intercession of his Son Jesus we will go to Prayer. Mr. Bois kneeling by the young Man the Devil a long time made a hedious Noise, but the Minister was heard above him, but the Devil struck the young Man dumb for some time, as he was like dead, *Mordopen thou his, that his Mouth may shew forth thy Praise*, that he answer'd, *Amen*. And so he did to every Sentence, And the Devil in great Rage threw down the Bond and departed in great Fury. Then their Prayer were turned to Praies and Thanksgivings, then returning Home burn'd the

Bond the Genrlman praſing GOD for ſo wonderful a Deliverance, deſiring it to be Publiſhed as, a Warning to Youth, that all to whom this comes may with him return God Thanks for his great Mercy and to live in Brotherly Love, and beware of ſeeking Revenge.

### The PRAYER.

**H**OLY Lord God, we render thee humble and hearty thanks in that thou has vouchſafed to hear our Prayers, and delivered thy Servant from the Power of Satan, who is the Grand Deceiver of Mankind? we beleech thee to order his Ways, that he may that which is everpleaſing in thy Sight, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, *Amen.*





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